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modern times received a more cordial reception than the *Catholic Encyclopedia*. The non-Catholic religious press was almost unanimous in praising the project, one publication speaking of it as the "greatest work undertaken for the advancement of Christian knowledge since the days of Trent." The value of this volume can hardly be exaggerated, for it brings the host of readers who daily read the *Encyclopedia* into the circle of the most scholarly men and women in the Catholic Church throughout the world. No man of our day can estimate the full extent of the *Encyclopedia's* influence for good, and this volume takes us behind the scenes as it were and shows us in a flash the magnitude of a project which, completed today, stands unrivalled in the world.

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**History of the Civil War (1861-1865).** By James Ford Rhodes. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917. Pp. 454, with maps. Price, \$2.50.

In the space of a single volume of moderate size Mr. Rhodes carefully discusses the military, naval, diplomatic, financial, and social history of the Civil War, a struggle which in its later stage was continued rather for Southern independence than for the extension or the protection of the institution of slavery. While his conclusions are beyond reasonable criticism and his maps of forts, marches, and campaigns are excellent, occasionally there is an hiatus in the narrative and sometimes an unexpected brevity of treatment. Having thoroughly considered the entire subject in his great history, the author does not appear to have felt the necessity of again exhaustively describing themes which he had once adequately examined. The reviewer's ideas will, perhaps, be better understood by giving a few illustrations.

In referring to the ordinance of secession which was termed a Declaration of Independence of the State of South Carolina the fact is passed without observation that the delegates were by no means unanimous in their enumeration of the causes which impelled them to the separation. An examination of this circumstance makes interesting and not unprofitable reading for the student of American constitutional history.

On page 24 it is stated that the Virginia convention passed an ordinance of secession by a vote of 103 to 46. The present

reviewer has always seen the vote given as 88 to 55, and the useful comment added that the minority delegates were chiefly from the trans-Alleghany counties. Strange to say, there is in this work no treatment of the organization of West Virginia and its admission as a distinct commonwealth. On whatever ground an account of this interesting event is excluded, however, there is no doubt that the new State was a source of military strength to the Union cause. There is, indeed, an allusion to the existence at Alexandria of the feeble government of Francis Harrison Pierpont, but nothing is said of the admission to Congress of a Representative and two Senators from that fragment of the Old Dominion. What is very remarkable about the status of that commonwealth is that when one of its Senators died while in office, his successor was not admitted. In a word, that feeble community was entitled to but *one* Senator in Congress. This revolutionary proceeding should have been noticed.

The author's estimate of General Beauregard is hardly as complimentary as the record of that officer's achievements would appear to justify. At the first Bull Run he was superseded. General Joseph E. Johnston, a superb soldier and chivalrous gentleman, took over the command of Beauregard *after* the former engagement, while Albert Sidney Johnston, an officer by some even more highly esteemed than the Eastern commander, began the great battle of Shiloh. When Beauregard, because of the death of his superior, was in command, he could hardly have known that Buell would have been punctual and Van Dorm behindhand. Doctor Rhodes should have explained why Lee or Davis failed to assist Beauregard in capturing or destroying Butler's army at Drury's Bluff. The situation contained undoubted elements of success. Why were they unimproved? When the Confederacy was tottering to its fall, the services of Beauregard appear to have been in greater request than they were in the season of its triumph.

In discussing Lincoln's plan of gradual emancipation of slaves with compensation to owners nothing is said of his endeavor to have the offer of Congress accepted by Delaware, a small State in which it was thought best to begin the experiment. The reasons for its rejection by Delaware make interesting reading. Nor is there made in this study any mention of

the enlightened support of the principle of compensated emancipation by Senator John B. Henderson, of Missouri. For his sagacity and patriotism that statesman should not have been passed without notice.

If this work is designed for the general reader, in parts it is incomplete; on the other hand, if it is intended for the professional student of American history, its contents are already familiar.

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**The Formation of the State of Oklahoma** (University of California Press), by R. Gittinger, Ph.D. (pp. i-vii, 1-256).

This objective history presents the ethnographical and political development of the State of Oklahoma from the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 until the passage of the enabling act in June, 1906.

The author is professor of English History and Dean of Undergraduates in the University of Oklahoma. His book offers ample evidence that he is painstaking and judicious in his research work, logical and clear in his method of exposition and capable of presenting a complex and arid subject in a correct and limpid style. And because in the compilation of official documents and in the redaction of this volume he acknowledges the assistance of such eminent authorities on the history of the southwest as Professors Herbert E. Bolton, Joseph B. Thoburn and several others, his work stands out as the most authoritative and the most accurate on the formation of the state of Oklahoma.

After Congress had organized the territories of Louisiana in 1812 and of Arkansas in 1819, the Quapaws entered into a first treaty by which a considerable tract of land situated in the present state of Oklahoma was ceded to the Choctaws. They were followed by the Creeks and Cherokees and the country was definitely set apart for the southern Indians. However, the western half of the state was then a part of the hunting grounds of the Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Indians, and to forestall trouble with new occupants a great council was held in 1835, as a result of which what is now Oklahoma was divided by a line drawn north and south almost through its center. In later years the eastern half was considered the territory of the civilized tribes, and the western half that of the "blanket" Indians. It